

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 15, and continuing to page 5, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fourthly, the invention relates to the above-mentioned thermoplastic elastomer composition molded article described in any one of ~~claims 1 to 3~~ above-mentioned 1 to 3, wherein the above-mentioned conjugated diene-based block copolymer (3) is obtained by hydrogenating a conjugated diene-based block copolymer in which both end blocks thereof are the following block A and an intermediate block is the following block B, when the sum of the block A and the block B is taken as 100% by mass, the block A is from 5 to 90% by mass and the block B is from 10 to 95% by mass, at least 80% of all double bonds contained in the conjugated diene-based block copolymer (3) before hydrogenation is saturated, and the number average molecular weight thereof is from 50,000 to 700,000:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 24, and continuing to page 6, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Seventhly, the invention relates to the above-mentioned thermoplastic elastomer composition molded article, wherein when the sum of the above-mentioned ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin-based copolymer (1), the above-mentioned crystalline polyethylenic resin (2) and the above-mentioned block copolymer (3) is taken as 100 parts by mass, a crosslinking assistant is further added in an amount of 0.1 to 10 parts by mass to a thermoplastic elastomer composition [[(4)]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The EAO-based copolymer (1) used in the present invention may be an oil-extended polymer to which a softening agent is added at the time of polymerization. Such an EAO-based copolymer (1) can be produced by a method described in Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-383320 JP-A-2001-247629.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 25, and continuing to page 12, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The crystalline ethylenic polymer blocks (a) which ~~a copolymer of the conjugated diene-based block copolymer (3)~~ conjugated diene-based block copolymer (3) has include a copolymer having an ethylene content of 50% or more and an ethylene homopolymer.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 4, and continuing to page 32, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

There is no particular limitation on such a polymer compound, as long as it is other than the specific functional group-containing copolymer, and various compounds can be used. Specific examples thereof include an ionomer, an aminoacrylamide polymer, polyethylene and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, ~~polyisobutylene~~, an ethylene-vinyl chloride polymer, an ethylene-vinyl alcohol polymer, an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyethylene oxide, an ethylene-acrylic acid copolymer, polypropylene and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, an atactic poly-1-butene homopolymer, an  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer resin (a copolymer of propylene (50 mol% or more) and another  $\alpha$ -olefin (such as ethylene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-octene or 1-decene), or a

copolymer of 1-butene (50 mol% or more) and another  $\alpha$ -olefin (such as ethylene, propylene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-octene or 1-decene)), polyisobutylene and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, chlorinated polypropylene, a 4-methylpenetene-1 resin, polystyrene, an ABS resin, an ACS resin, an AS resin, an AES resin, an ASA resin, an MBS resin, ~~an acrylic resin, a methacrylic resin, a vinyl chloride resin, a vinylidene chloride resin, a polyamide resin, a polycarbonate, an acrylic resin, a methacrylic resin, a vinyl chloride resin, a vinylidene chloride resin, a vinyl alcohol resin, a vinyl acetal resin, a methyl methacrylate resin, a fluororesin, a polyether resin, polyethylene terephthalate, a polyacrylic ester, a polyamide resin, an ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer rubber and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, an ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin-non-conjugated diene copolymer rubber, a styrene-butadiene rubber and a hydrogenated product thereof, a maleic anhydride graft polymer of a hydrogenated product of a styrene-butadiene rubber, a butadiene rubber and a hydrogenated product thereof, a maleic anhydride graft polymer of a hydrogenated product of a butadiene rubber, a polyisobutylene-isoprene isoprene copolymer, an isoprene rubber and a hydrogenated product thereof, a maleic anhydride graft polymer of a hydrogenated product of an isoprene rubber, a styrene-isoprene rubber and a hydrogenated product thereof, a maleic anhydride graft polymer of a hydrogenated product of a styrene-isoprene rubber, a nitrile rubber and a hydrogenated product thereof, an acrylic rubber, a silicone rubber, a fluororubber, a butyl rubber, a natural rubber, a chlorinated polyethylene-based thermoplastic elastomer, a syndiotactic 1,2-polybutadiene, a hydrogenated product of a styrene-butadiene block copolymer, a hydrogenated product of a styrene-isoprene conjugated diene-based block copolymer, a simple blend type olefinic thermoplastic elastomer, an implant type olefinic thermoplastic elastomer, a dynamically crosslinked type olefinic thermoplastic elastomer, a polyvinyl chloride-based thermoplastic elastomer, a polyurethane-based thermoplastic~~

elastomer, a polyester-based thermoplastic elastomer, a polyamide-based thermoplastic elastomer and a fluorine-based thermoplastic elastomer, and a crystalline/amorphous  $\alpha$ -olefin polymer such as polypropylene or a propylene-butene-1 copolymer resin is preferred.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 15, and continuing to page 33, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, as the various additives, there can be added, for example, an antioxidant, an antistatic agent, [[a]] an anti-blocking agent, sealing property improver, a lubricant, a stabilizer such as an antiaging agent, a thermal stabilizer, an antiweathering agent, a metal deactivator, an ultraviolet absorber, a light stabilizer or a copper poisoning inhibitor, an antibacterial/mildewproofing agent, a dispersant, a plasticizer, a crystal nucleating agent, a flame retardant, a stickiness provider, a foaming assistant, a colorant such as titanium oxide or carbon black, a pigment, a metal powder such as ferrite, an inorganic fiber such as glass fiber or metal fiber, carbon fiber, an organic fiber such as aramid fiber, a composite fiber, an inorganic whisker such as potassium titanate whisker, a filler such as glass beads, glass balloons, glass flakes, asbestos, mica, calcium carbonate, talc, wet-process silica, dry-process silica, alumina, alumina silica, calcium silicate, hydrotalcite, caolin, diatomaceous earth, graphite, pumice, ebonite powder, cotton flock, cork powder, barium sulfate, a fluororesin or polymer beads, or a mixture thereof, a filler such as polyolefin wax, cellulose powder, rubber powder or wood powder, a low molecular weight polymer and the like.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The thermal decomposition type foaming agents include a nitroso-based foaming agent such as N,N'-dinitrosopentamethylenetetramine or N,N'-dimethyl-N,N'-dinitrosoterephthalamide, an azo-based foaming agent such as azodicarbonamide, ~~barium azodicarboxylate~~ or barium azodicarboxylate, a sulfohydrazide-based foaming agent such as p,p'-oxybisbenzenesulfonylhydrazide, 4,4'-oxybis(benzenesulfonylhydrazide) or p-toluenesulfonylsemicarbazide, a triazine-based foaming agent such as trihydrazinotriazine, a tetrazole-based foaming agent such as 5-phenyltetrazole, azobistetrazolediguanidine or azobistetrazoleaminoguanidine, and an inorganic foaming agent such as sodium hydrogen carbonate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 48, line 22, and continuing to page 49, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The plastics include an ionomer, an aminoacrylamide polymer, polyethylene and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, ~~polyisobutylene~~, an ethylene-vinyl chloride polymer, an ethylene-vinyl alcohol polymer, an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyethylene oxide, an ethylene-acrylic acid copolymer, polypropylene and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, polyisobutylene and a maleic anhydride graft polymer thereof, chlorinated polypropylene, a 4-methylpenetene-1 resin, polystyrene, an ABS resin, an ACS resin, an AS resin, an AES resin, an ASA resin, an MBS resin, ~~an acrylic resin, a methacrylic resin, a vinyl chloride resin, a vinylidene chloride resin, a polyamide resin~~, a polycarbonate, an acrylic resin, a methacrylic resin, a vinyl chloride resin, a vinylidene chloride resin, a vinyl alcohol resin, a vinyl acetal resin, a methyl methacrylate resin, a fluororesin, a polyether resin, polyethylene terephthalate, a polyacrylic ester, a polyamide resin, a polyurethane, a

~~polyimide, a polyurea resin, an epoxy resin, a phenol resin, a urea resin, polybutene-1, a methylpentene resin, polyacrylonitrile and the like.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 51, line 3, and continuing to page 52, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fifty-eight parts by mass of an oil-extended ethylene-propylene-5-ethylenenorbornene copolymer rubber (manufactured by JSR Corp., name of product: "EP98A", ethylene content: 79 mol%, propylene content: 21 mol%, ~~iodization:~~ iodine value: 15, paraffinic oil 75 phr oil extended) as the ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefinic copolymer (1), 21 parts by mass of linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) (manufactured by Nippon Polychem Co., name of product: "Novatec LL UF423", crystallinity: 40%, melting point by DSC: 124°C) as the crystalline polyethylenic resin (2), 21 parts by mass of the conjugated diene-based block copolymer (3) shown below, 5 parts by mass of crystalline polypropylene (manufactured by Nippon Polychem Co., name of product: "Novatec PP BC5CW", crystallinity: 70%) as the  $\alpha$ -olefinic polymer and 0.2 part by mass of a tetraester type high molecular hindered phenol-based antioxidant (manufactured by Ciba Specialty Chemicals Co., name of product: "Irganox 1010") as the antiaging agent were mixed and melt-kneaded in a 10-liter pressurized kneader (manufactured by Moriyama Company Ltd.) at a preset temperature of 150°C at 40 rpm (a shear rate of 200/sec) for a kneading time of 15 minutes. The resulting composition in a molten bulk state was pelletized with a feeder-ruder (manufactured by Moriyama Company Ltd.) to obtain a desired thermoplastic elastomer composition. Then, using the resulting thermoplastic elastomer composition, a sheet-shaped molded article before irradiation having a thickness of 2 mm, a length of 120 mm and a width of 120 mm was prepared with an injection molding machine (manufactured by Toshiba Machine Co., Ltd., type: "IS-90B").

Electron beam irradiation was conducted thereon under an atmosphere of nitrogen using an electron beam irradiation apparatus (manufactured by Nisshin High Voltage Corporation, name of product: "ESP300-60") to obtain a thermoplastic elastomer composition molded article of the present invention. Specifically, treatment of an electron beam acceleration voltage of 300 kV and an irradiation dose of 500 kGy was conducted on both sides of the sheet.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 54, lines 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Oil-extended ethylene-propylene-5-ethylidenenorbornene copolymer rubber (manufactured by JSR Corp., name of product: "EP98A", ethylene content: 79 mol%, propylene content: 21 mol%, iodization: iodine value: 15, paraffinic oil 75 phr oil extended)